GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2807
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000
VISIT OF GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER
AVTAR SINGH BHADANA;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether German Foreign Minister visited India recently;

(b) if so, the issues discussed; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b)&(c) Mr. Joschka Fischer, Deputy Chancellor and Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany, visited India on 17th & 18th May, 2000. During this visit, bilateral relations, regional issues and multilateral developments were reviewed. The visit has led to improved appreciation of the mutual interests of India and Germany and has also enhanced Germany`s understanding of the implications of developments in India`s neighbourhood. It was agreed that India and Germany would continue to consult each other on key bilateral and international strategic issues through the mechanism of the bilateral strategic dialogue. The discussions also led to an agreement to work together to combat international terrorism and its nexus with drug trafficking and illicit trade in arms. Germany and India are both candidates for permanent membership of an expanded UN Security Council.Both agree that there is a need for reform and balanced enlargement of UNSC to make it more representative and improve its ability to act and function properly.

The two sides adopted an Agenda for Indo-German Partnership in the 21st Century - A Vision Statement, which outlines steps to upgrade the relationship through enhanced political exchanges, a security dialogue, the augmentation of bilateral trade and investment, enhanced cultural exchanges and bilateral co-operation to combat international terrorism, drug trafficking and organised crime.